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December 17, 1962

NSC Executive Committee Record of Action, December 17, 1962, 3:00 PM  
Meeting No. 37

1. Following further discussion of the "Operating Plan for the Congo," the President authorized:

- a. Informing U Thant (1) that we are willing to supply the military equipment, including planes, which he has requested; (2) that we are going to talk to Spaak and others about our Congo plan; and (3) that we will be in touch with him again in the next few days;
- b. Informing Spaak of what we plan to do, including our willingness to consider sending a U.S. fighter squadron to the Congo in support of the UN if necessary and if invited to do so by Adoula;
- c. Informing Adoula of our plans, if these plans are acceptable to Spaak;
- d. Sending a military mission to the Congo immediately (1) to determine the feasibility of basing and protecting a U.S. air squadron there and (2) to estimate the capability of the UN forces there to undertake successful military action;
- e. Informing the British at Nassau of our plans in general.

2. The President made clear that if Tshombe was not cowed by the new UN effort, including the introduction of a U.S. air squadron, we would then decide on further actions in the light of the requested military appraisal.

3. A U.S. statement for use in the event it is decided to make separate and disagreed U.S. and USSR statements on Cuba to the UN Secretary General was revised and agreed upon.

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Authority NSC 68, 8/1/78  
By HLW, NARS, Date 9/16/78

Inform Bond  
McGeorge Bundy

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